**P.A.W.S. Grant Criteria and Guidelines**

**Who can apply for a P.A.W.S. grant?**

The Pride in Action in Winnipeg Schools (P.A.W.S.) grant program is aimed at getting middle school students involved in their school, local, and global community. Grant proposals will be accepted from school groups or clubs comprised of students in Grades 6 through 9. Examples of eligible groups include leadership, green teams and student councils. Only one proposal will be considered from each group per school year however multiple proposals may be considered from each school provided they are from different organizations. Previous recipients of P.A.W.S. grants are not excluded from applying for or receiving grants in subsequent years.

**What types of projects will be granted funding?**

**Waste reduction initiatives**

Consideration will be given to those projects aimed at reducing overall waste and also those focused on diverting waste from the landfill. Examples would include litterless lunch campaigns, composting programs and recycling initiatives.

**Green spaces**

Projects involving the start up or improvement of school green spaces will also be considered for funding. This could include starting up a garden, planting trees, adding benches or picnic tables to school grounds, among other things to make the space more appealing and functional.

**Graffiti removal/prevention**

Projects aimed at removing graffiti or curbing the incidence of graffiti also fall under the scope of what will be considered for funds. Examples of such projects include graffiti paint outs, murals or awareness campaigns.

**Environmental sustainability**

There are many environmental issues worthy of attention these days. Projects aimed at addressing issues of environmental damage or sustainability can also be eligible for P.A.W.S. funding. Such issues may include energy consumption, water conservation or climate change. Examples of projects in this category may be awareness campaigns, fundraising efforts or school wide contests.

**Other**

Our mission at *Take Pride Winnipeg!* is to inspire community pride, raise public awareness and promote citizen responsibility in making the city of Winnipeg clean and beautiful. Projects that strive to achieve this mission, but do not necessarily fall under any of the above categories will certainly be considered for funding. Please outline in your proposal how you feel that your project relates to achieving these goals.

**What should be included in the grant proposal?**

In addition to completing the grant proposal form and accompanying write up groups are encouraged to bring creativity to their applications. In many cases including pictures, posters, videos or other visual aids can be helpful in the decision making process. Let us know why your idea is unique!

Proposals should also be largely student driven and written. This is a great opportunity for creativity and growth for the students as they learn the ins and outs of grant writing and project planning. Advising teachers are there to assist and to ensure that all the criteria and guidelines are met and that projects remain realistic based on resources and capabilities. Proposals that appear to be written by teachers may be excluded from consideration.

***Please submit all grant proposal materials by mail, in person or by email to:***

**Tanya Blatz, Youth Programs Coordinator**

***Take Pride Winnipeg!* Inc.**

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